LANGHAM * COURT * THEATRE presents



NOV 15 – DEC 02 LES BELLES-SOEURS

A COMEDY BY MICHEL TREMBLAY DIRECTED BY JUDY TRELOAR





by Stuart Paterson Adapted and directed by KATE RUBIN

DECEMBER 7,8 & 9, 2017 LANGHAM COURT THEATRE

Show Times 8pm Matinee 2pm, December 9

TICKETS:

Langham Court Theatre 805 Langham Court 250-384-2142 or boxoffice@langhamtheatre.ca

Proceeds go to Victoria Single Parent Resource Centre and TLC: Fund For Kids

Langham Court Theatre

Les Belles-Soeurs

by Michel Tremblay

November 15 – December 2, 2017

Presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

Director Producer Stage Manager Costume Design Lighting Design Properties/Set Décor Set Design Sound Design Dialect Coach JUDY TRELOAR NICK STULL SARAH INNES COLLEEN MAGUIRE ADAM WILKINSON DREW WAVERYN BILL ADAMS TIM WATTERS HELÉNÈ POTVIN

Cast

Germaine Lauzon Rose Ouimet Gabrielle Jodoin Pierrette Guérin Linda Lauzon Lise Paquette Lisette de Courval Marie Brouillette Yvette Longpré Des-Neiges Verette Angéline Sauvé Rhéauna Bibeau Thérèse Dubuc Olivine Dubuc PAM MILLER KATE MCCALLUM PAGETT LESLIE SANCHEZ DEIRDRE TIPPING COLLEEN MAGUIRE HILARY WHEELER SARAH HEYMAN AMANDA HEFFELFINGER DEBBIE ROBINSON MEGAN BOURNS GELI BARTLETT DENISE GIRVIN MONICA PRENDERGAST JANIE WOODS-MORRIS*

Setting

The play is set in 1965, in the kitchen of a Montreal tenement. Three enormous boxes occupy centre stage.

Running time: two hours ten minutes with one twenty minute intermission

*Janie Woods-Morris appearing with the permission of Canadian Actors' Equity Association





Production Team

Assistant Stage Managers	Quinn MacTavish, Emily Yarnold
Head Scenic Carpenter	Chris Clarke
Lighting Crew	Paul Hilton, Tasia Swartze, Jennifer Illingworth, Carol-Anne Moore, Geri Wier, Zoe Hibbert
Light Operators	Andrea Pite, Barry Putz
Set Construction Crew	Carl Powell, Bill Adams, Julius Maslovat, Charley Encell, Mike Kuss, Alf Small, Gordon Alexander, Doug Craig
Set Design Assistant	Carl Powell
Set Painters	John Smith, Bill Adams
Sound Operators	Larry Taylor, Jason King, Natalie Shaw

Theatre Team

Artist Coordinator Bookkeeper Box Office Manager Costume Loft Manager Custodian/ **Facilities Manager** Front of House Manager **General Manager** Head Scenic Carpenter Photographer Production Chairs 2017-18 Roger Carr Production Chairs 2018-20 Alan Penty **Programme Coordinator Properties Managers**

Technical Director

Jeani Reynolds Jon Scheer Dick Newson **Colleen Maguire** Michael Gosselin

Christina Haska Michelle Buck Chris Clarke David Lowes Keith Digby Pat Rundell Michael Gosselin Sally Crickman, Jean de Cartier Jason King

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Merci Langham Court Theatre for celebrating "the sisterhood" in this Michel Tremblay Canadian classic.

Hon. Carole James, MLA Victoria–Beacon Hill

Community Office 1084 Fort Street

tel: 250.952.4211 carole.james.mla@leg.bc.ca www.carolejamesmla.ca





President's Message

When first presented on stage, *Les Belles-Soeurs* stirred up a hornet's nest. Written in 1965 and rejected unanimously by the jury for the Dominion Drama Festival in 1966, it premiered at Théâtre du Rideau Vert on August 28, 1968. It was acclaimed as revolutionary and denounced as crude and vulgar. It has been translated into some 30 languages including Scots, German and Yiddish, and made into musicals

in French and English. Still vital and able to make you laugh and cry, this play is important in the history of Quebec and Canadian theatre, and also in the history of Langham Court Theatre, making a return appearance on our stage after 20 years. We hope you enjoy it and keep coming back for the next 20 years.

Kevin Stinson, President

Welcome from the General Manager



It was an unexpected thrill one afternoon as I was sorting through some boxes in the theatre archives to come across a cast and crew photo from Langham's 1997 production of *Les Belles-Soeurs.* It was wonderful to see faces I recognized, many still active in our local theatre scene. As with all good stories, 20 years later this play remains relevant as it is a story about relationships. To those of you that have been here and supported us before (some since 1997 and earlier), we say thank you. To those of you joining us for the first time, we hope you stay around and discover more about yourself and your world through the stories we choose to tell.

Michelle Buck, General Manager

Production Co-Chairs' Reflection



In selecting a play to be performed at the end of the Canada 150 observation, we wished to include a play that first, has had profound significance for Canadian theatre and second, is a play that remains a joy to produce. Of *Les Belles-Soeurs*, the *Canadian Theatre Encyclopedia* states, "The impact of this work... changed much of what was believed to be Quebec culture." That ticked our first box. Our second was ticked by Michel Tremblay himself when, in 2014, the *Montreal Gazette* asked Tremblay why *Les Belles-Soeurs* remains popular and he replied, "Because it's good."

Roger Carr and Keith Digby, Production Co-Chairs

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Director's Notes

Gold

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What a journey this has been. Fourteen women on stage for most of the night, and no men (except for the ones behind the scenes). The cast and crew have all been down Memory Lane, with mums, grandmothers and sisters. We will always have stories to tell, and we will always want people to listen.

Judy Treloar



Production Biographies



JUDY TRELOAR Director

Judy thought that her last play at Langham was *Pride and Prejudice.* Then along came *Les Belles-Soeurs.* Who could resist? She is grateful for all the support from Drew, Zoe, Laura, Leon, Emma and friends and family, and from Roger Carr and Keith Digby.



NICK STULL Producer

Nick is so gratified that 14 talented women have tackled this very challenging comedy, and in a new accent for most! The life blood of our community theatre is a happy mixture of veterans and new folk on stage and behind the scenes. We hope you enjoy our production of *Les Belles-Soeurs*.



SARAH INNES Stage Manager

Sarah has worked on several shows over the last 10 years at Langham, most recently as stage manager for last season's *One Man, Two Guvnors.* She's enjoyed getting to know the talented ladies cast in *Les Belles-Soeurs*, and thanks Quinn and Emily for their assistance. She hopes you enjoy your visit to 1965 Montréal!



COLLEEN MAGUIRE Costume Design

After graduating from Company C at CCPA, Colleen joyfully began to stitch her career together as a Costume Designer and performer. She spends her time as the manager of The Loft at Langham which means she's never away from the theatre for long!



ADAM WILKINSON Lighting Design

Adam is delighted to be back with friends at LCT. Production credits include *The Boyfriend*, *Abelard and Heloise*, *Dark of the Moon*, *The Night Sky*, *Betrayal*, *The Lion in Winter*, *Our Town*, *That Face*, *The Graduate*, *Pride and Prejudice*, and most recently, *Next to Normal*. Adam is gainfully employed at the Royal and McPherson Playhouse, and loves to cook for Mom and travel to the sun anywhere.



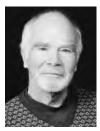
Production Biographies



DREW WAVERYN Properties/Set Décor

Drew is having a great time working on *Les Belles-Soeurs* with such a wonderful and talented cast and crew. He's known Judy for more than 30 years and was more than happy to say "yes!" when Judy emailed to ask if he would be willing to work with her again.

BILL ADAMS Set Design



This is Bill's 75th set design and the 8th one for Judy. Their collaboration has generated some fairly memorable sets including the cold 13th century castle of *The Lion in Winter*, the lavish period interior of *Rebecca*, the warm Tuscan villa patio of *Enchanted April*, the Elizabethan barn interior of *Elizabeth Rex*, and the humble Irish croft of *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*. This set for *Les Belles-Soeurs* is pretty straightforward in comparison, but hopefully no less effective.



TIMOTHY WATTERS Sound Design

Timothy previously created sound designs for the Langham productions of *People* and *Humble Boy*. He was the sound designer for, and an actor in, Target Theatre's production of *No Big Deal*. Timothy produced the sound design for Sid Tafler's play *The Original Deed*, currently being performed at Congregation Emanu-El.



HELÉNÈ POTVIN Dialect Coach

Hélène was born in Québec in 1951. She lived in many places, including France, but chose Victoria for her retirement. After being in business, and her motherhood completed, she started writing. Since 2002, she has published eight books in French: seven novels and one essay on numerology, two of them best-sellers.

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About the Playwright



MICHEL TREMBLAY

Michel Tremblay (1942 –) is considered by many to be Canada's greatest living playwright. His 50 year career has had many highlights, including the 1968 premiere of *Les Belles-Soeurs* that caused a scandal at the time. This was due to its use of the working class Montreal *joual* dialect, as well as its critical portrayals of a Quebecois society that was under-educated and repressed by the Catholic Church. Other key Tremblay plays include *Forever Yours, Marie-Lou* (1971),

Hosanna (1974), Bonjour la Bonjour (1974), Albertine in Five Times (1984), The Real World? (1987) and For the Pleasure of Seeing Her Again (1998). Tremblay writes semi-autobiographically in many of his plays, and fearlessly explores his working class background, his family and his gay identity. In more recent years, Tremblay has turned to writing novels and screenplays. He has won many national and international awards, including the Governor General's Award and the Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres de France. Les Belles Soeurs has been translated and performed in many countries, including a Scottish dialect production (The Guid Sisters), a Yiddish dialect one (Di Shvegerius) and in Italian. The musical version of the play is currently touring Canada.

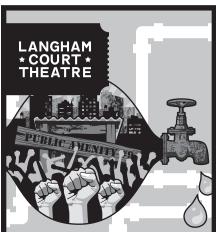
Dr. Monica Prendergast, Associate Professor, Drama Education, University of Victoria





Cast and Crew of Les Belles-Soeurs





JAN 17 - FEB 03 URINETOWN: The Musical

langhamtheatre.ca



Cast Biographies



PAM MILLER Germaine Lauzon

Pam is very connected to this play: born, raised and educated in Montreal. Pasting "pinky" stamps in booklets for her mother, winning an essay contest for Canada's 100th anniversary celebration, and representing Quebec in a Canada-wide student exchange...and oh yes... playing Rose in the 1997 production at Langham. Thanks to all the wonderful people who make this all possible. Avec amour.



KATE MCCALLUM PAGETT Rose Ouimet

Kate has loved this play since high school. It evokes memories of her French-Canadian grandfather, her strong-opinioned grandmother, their high gloss, lime kitchen cabinets and her mother's stories of childhood. Kate is the Coordinator of Student Life at Glenlyon Norfolk School where she also teaches drama. Mark, Scarlett and Ainsley certainly deserve a million stamps and she thanks them for supporting her return to the Langham stage.



LESLIE SANCHEZ Gabrielle Jodoin

Leslie is thrilled to be back at Langham. She was previously seen in *Calendar Girls* and is relieved to remain fully clothed in *Les Belles-Soeurs!* She has performed in several Cowichan Valley productions and directed *Steel Magnolias* (Mercury Players). Thanks to her family and friends. She couldn't do this without you!



DEIRDRE TIPPING Pierrette Guérin

We often live two completely different lives; one out loud, in full view and the other carefully hidden behind the facade of daily life. Deirdre is grateful for the opportunity to explore the poignant ironies in the lives of these women. Many thanks to director Judy, cast and crew.



COLLEEN MAGUIRE Linda Lauzon

Previous double credits include A Murder is Announced (St. Luke's Players) Sgt. Mellors/Costume Design, and Sense and Sensibility (CCPA) Lucy Steele/Costume Coordination. Colleen jumps to take on too much. Cheers!



Cast Biographies



HILARY WHEELER Lise Paquette

Hilary is incredibly grateful for this challenging opportunity to work with an estrogen-filled cast and learn a new accent in her Langham Court debut. She is currently studying theatre at UVic. Select credits from this year include *Love's Labour's Lost* and *Macbeth* (GVSF), and *Foundation* (SATCo). Enjoy "le spectacle"!



SARAH HEYMAN Lisette de Courval

Sarah is excited to be a part of her first show at Langham! After having performed in Calgary for years, including many productions with The Shakespeare Company, Sarah is enjoying working in the vibrant theatre scene in Victoria. She sends her love to her husband, David, and three sons.



AMANDA HEFFELFINGER Marie Brouillette

Amanda came to Langham in 2015 as a sound operator for *The Penelopiad*. A year later, she was somehow wrangled into playing Tutu Girl 2 in *Stepping Out*. It was curiosity and a love of Michel Tremblay's masterwork that prompted her to audition for *Les Belles-Soeurs* this summer. It's Amanda's first time on stage in a full role since high school! Enjoy.



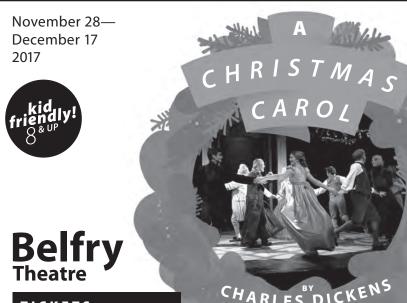
DEBBIE ROBINSON *Yvette Longpré*

Debbie has performed numerous roles over the past 25 years. Some favourites include Jacques Brel, The Cemetery Club, Blood Brothers, Company, and Les Misérables. Most recently, she was the Assistant Director for Stepping Out and Sunset Boulevard. Debbie is delighted to be back at Langham performing with this wonderful ensemble.



MEGAN BOURNS Des-Neiges Verette

Megan is typically found as a Stage Manager in the Cowichan Valley. It was time to hit the boards again. She is honoured to be working with such a skilled and experienced cast and director here at Langham Court. Thanks always to my family for their support while I "play."



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Christian Kluxen, Music Director



Cast Biographies





GELI BARTLETT Angéline Sauvé

Langham Court is Geli's home theatre in Victoria. In 2002, the good people here welcomed her in from a 30 year theatrefree wilderness for a romp in Alan Bennett's *Habeas Corpus*. Since then, she's appeared in half a dozen productions; most recently as Iris in *People* (2014), and Fleming in *Taking Leave* (2017). She is thoroughly enjoying the privilege of working for the first time with Mme. Treloar, her superb crew and a baker's dozen of the best actors in Victoria. Thank you Judy!

DENISE GIRVIN Rhéauna Bibeau

This is Denise's first performance with Langham Court Theatre. Her theatre background over the past 35+ years has been in musical theatre, most recently as Mrs. Pugh in the VOS 2013 production of *Annie*. This is Denise's first performance outside of musical theatre. Profitez du spectacle!



MONICA PRENDERGAST Thérèse Dubuc

Monica has been seen on many local stages, including two recent shows with William Head on Stage. This is her second production at Langham Court (*Dancing at Lughnasa*, 2002), and a wonderful chance to revisit a favourite Canadian play: "One woman complaining is pitiful. Five women saying they are unhappy with their lives at the same time is the beginning of a revolution" —Michel Tremblay



JANIE WOODS-MORRIS Olivine Dubuc

Janie is very happy to be a member of *Les Belles-Soeurs* performing the perfect role for an aging actress. She raises a bottle of Coke to a successful run. Vive La Langham.



This production is a fundraiser for ALS Canada ALS



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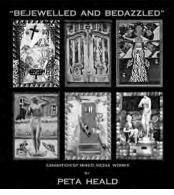
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Artist Biography



Peta Heald – Visual Artist, Past Langham Court Theatre President and Langham Life Member

Peta Heald's diverse art career started in the mid 70s when she began to explore all forms of high fire clays and porcelains. The experience and skills she gained during those early years lead her to teach and also to progressively delve into the creation of large format Raku vessels and sculptures. Her works have been exhibited on Vancouver Island and are found in personal collections in the region and abroad.

Peta's most recent project is an on-going

collection of photographs representing richly composed juxtapositions of architectural elements, nature and the human body. These photographic works have also spun off a new series of icon-like mixed media works on canvas.

For Peta, there is a blurring between life and the creation of art. She spontaneously extracts an art experience from every moment. Being present and following her intuition with conviction is her guiding force and this is reflected in her passion for theatre and for life itself. The way she reacts to the world as an individual and as a theatre actor has forged a meaningful mark onto her art; this is evident in her exuberant "stage like" mixed media constructions.

Melina Boucher

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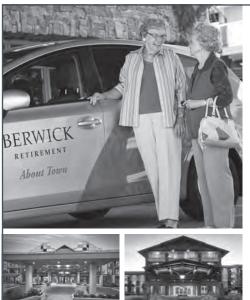
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